

Serial No. 10/677,318
Filed: October 3, 2003

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

With the above amendments, claim 1 has been amended to further define the invention and claim 10 has been canceled.

In the Office Action, the Patent Office rejected claims 1 to 15 and 32 to 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly not being enabling for antireflection layers with only basic compounds; rejected claims 1 to 9, 11 to 15, and 32 to 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated over Neisser et al (US 2003/0129547); rejected claims 1 to 15 and 32 to 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated over Mizutani et al (US 6808869); and rejected claims 1 to 15 and 32 to 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated over Pawlowski et al (US 6277750). These rejections are traversed for the reasons set forth below.

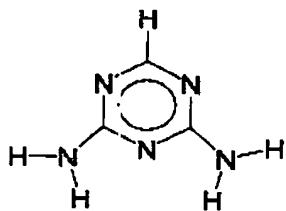
Regarding the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, applicants provide sufficient information in their specification as to make up of antireflective coating compositions. See, for example, page 4, lines 21 to 29; page 5, lines 8 to 19; page 7, lines 4 to 15; page 11, line 15 to page 12 line 11. Antireflective coating compositions are well known to those skilled in the art and those skilled artisans will recognize that antireflective coating compositions must contain polymers and radiation absorbers. The Patent Office has not provided sufficient evidence to the contrary. The rejection of the claims over 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is traversed and withdrawal thereof is requested.

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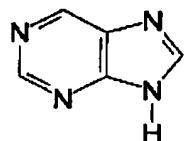
Also in the Office Action, the Patent Office rejected claims 1 to 9, 11 to 15, and 32 to 37 as allegedly being anticipated by Neisser et al. Neisser et al do not disclose applicants' amines which are not soluble in the solvent of the photoresist composition which is used with the antireflective coating composition. The solvent that applicants identify in which the base is not soluble is the solvent of the photoresist composition. The rejection is traversed and withdrawal thereof is requested.

Also in the Office Action, the Patent Office rejected claims 1 to 15 and 32 to 37 as allegedly being anticipated by Mizutani et al. The Patent Office states that Mizutani et al discloses basic compounds including guanamine which the Patent Office states is a substituted purine. Applicants disagree.

The structure of guanamine and purine are shown below. As can be seen, guanamine is not a substituted purine.



Guanamine



Purine

As such, Mizutani et al do not disclose applicants' invention. The rejection is traversed and withdrawal thereof is requested.

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Also in the Office Action, the Patent Office rejected claims 1 to 15 and 32 to 37 as allegedly being unpatentable over Pawlowski et al. Applicants' invention as now claimed does not contain uracil derivatives. This rejection is traversed and withdrawal thereof is requested.

Applicants submit that the concerns of the Patent Office have been addressed. Withdrawal of the rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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